

SENATOR SAVAGE: Will someone handle the E & R amendments?
Senator Reutzel?

SENATOR REUTZEL: MR. President, I move the adoption of the
E & R amendments.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Motion to adopt the E & R amendments. All
in favor say aye, opposed say nay. The E & R amendments
are adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Rumery moves to amend 564 by
inserting a new section as follows: Read Rumery amendment.

SENATOR RUMERY: Mr. President, I would like to ask unanimous
consent to withdraw that. We have this in a Resolution.

SENATOR SAVAGE: So ordered Senator Rumery.

CLERK Mr. President, Senator Simon moves to strike the pro-
visions dealing with the \$100 bonus.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Senator Simon.

SENATOR SIMON: Mr. President, members of the Legislature.
When LB 564 came before you on General File, I talked
against it. We held three interim studies, three separate
places on the issue and as I said at the time the Nebraska
National Guard could not tell me clearly or any other members
on the committee what their basic reasons were that people
leave the Nebraska National Guard. They can only summarize
what the reasons might be. I handed out a report which was
prepared by the U. S. National Guard showing the pay was at
the bottom of the reasons why people leave. As a matter of
fact it only affected 6%. 6% of the people said that if they
had higher pay they would stay in the National Guard. Now
it is one thing to provide educational benefits. That does
not cost the State of Nebraska anything only from the stand-
point that it is not additional revenue we might have gotten
- had those people gone ahead and utilized those particular
services. But, it is something else to pay a \$100 a head
like a bounty, especially when we are not convinced that it
is going to do any good. I guess that is the point that I
am trying to make. Now, if you want to just take \$500,000
and just shovel it, that is certainly your prerogative. I
want to make it clear again, the National Guard, I support
a strong National Guard, they certainly did a tremendous job
in my district during the floods, but I think to just merely
shovel this money and say this is the solution to the problem
is something that if Senator Rasmussen is honest, he doesn't
know if that will do this job, or nobody does. I would suggest
- rather than just shoving this money, which I don't think is
the most responsible action to take, that we spend the summer
and have them do a little bit of studying on their own, interview
the people that have left the Guard and find out what the
reason is. If in fact it is pay, which I strongly believe
that it is not, as national surveys have shown, then we can
do something about it next year. I can see no reason for the
all fired rush to merely push this money out and say this is
going to take care of the problem. Lets spend a little bit
of time, lets research it carefully and find out what the
real reason is behind the problem.